

Bishop, Everett

From: Duffy, Rick
Sent: Thursday, March 31, 2016 8:29 AM
To: El-Abdaoui, Fatima; Bishop, Everett
Cc: Ponak, Rich; sorto, evelyn; daw, harry
Subject: RE: Follow-Up to Our Conversation re Asbestos Emergency

Thank you.

From: El-Abdaoui, Fatima
Sent: Thursday, March 31, 2016 7:55 AM
To: Duffy, Rick <Duffy.Rick@epa.gov>; Bishop, Everett <Bishop.Everett@epa.gov>
Cc: Ponak, Rich <Ponak.Rich@epa.gov>; sorto, evelyn <sorto.evelyn@epa.gov>; daw, harry <daw.harry@epa.gov>
Subject: RE: Follow-Up to Our Conversation re Asbestos Emergency

Good morning:

Staff have been answering (b) (6) questions. On Tuesday, Rich spent 40 minutes on the telephone with (b) (6) and Evelyn Sorto talked to her last week.

Yesterday Rich was on site conducting his second inspection. He had discussions with the condominium owner and two residents including (b) (6).

Rich will discuss his inspection observations with Everett sometime today. I hope you will agree that we are addressing (b) (6) concerns.

Fatima El Abdaoui

Fatima El Abdaoui, Ph.D., Chief
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From: Duffy, Rick
Sent: Wednesday, March 30, 2016 4:24 PM
To: Bishop, Everett <Bishop.Everett@epa.gov>; El-Abdaoui, Fatima <El-Abdaoui.Fatima@epa.gov>
Subject: RE: Follow-Up to Our Conversation re Asbestos Emergency

I have a voicemail from (b) (6) who indicates that she has left messages but hasn't heard back from anyone. What, if anything, is taking place to follow up with her on the information that she provided?

Rick

Rick Duffy, Deputy Director
Monitoring, Assistance, and Media Programs Division

Office of Enforcement and Compliance Assurance
U.S. EPA
1200 Pennsylvania Ave., N.W. (MC-2227A)
Washington, DC 20460
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From: Bishop, Everett
Sent: Monday, March 28, 2016 10:54 AM
To: El-Abdaoui, Fatima <El-Abdaoui.Fatima@epa.gov>
Cc: Duffy, Rick <Duffy.Rick@epa.gov>
Subject: FW: Follow-Up to Our Conversation re Asbestos Emergency

Fatima –

Here is the information Rick received from (b) (6) regarding the Wight Bay condominiums that I mentioned in my voice message.

Everett Bishop
US EPA
Office of Compliance
(202) 564-7032
bishop.everett@epa.gov

From: Duffy, Rick
Sent: Monday, March 28, 2016 9:38 AM
To: Bishop, Everett <Bishop.Everett@epa.gov>
Subject: FW: Follow-Up to Our Conversation re Asbestos Emergency

From: (b) (6)
Sent: Monday, March 28, 2016 9:35 AM
To: Duffy, Rick <Duffy.Rick@epa.gov>
Subject: Follow-Up to Our Conversation re Asbestos Emergency

Mr. Duffy,

I have tried to gather the records which you requested on Friday during our conversation. As I mentioned Friday, our notes from phone calls we made and voice messages we left, for whom and when are in our condo and for our safety as discussed we are not returning to the condo until we have assurances it is safe to do so, i.e. thorough negative air and carpet testing, where the testing is performed with the correct methodology.

I have attached:

- the asbestos positive test results done by the Condo Board,
- the report from the expert we hired to do testing specifically in our unit (with the goal of Dr. White providing the Condo Board, Property Management Company- OCREM and Contractors with the exact scope of work which indeed required asbestos abatement and containment),

- the air clearance test received after our conversation on Friday which was done BEFORE all work in the unit was completed (lacks methodology, sample number etc),
- photo of the Notice of Asbestos Project, and
- emails exchanged with MDE (in chronological order)

As you can see from the email exchanges between my sister and MDE, the Condo Board and OCREM essentially duped MDE. As we discussed, they apparently knew exactly how to cut corners in just the right way so they could state abatement and containment was being done even though they had only contracted to have such done on two sets of windows for each of 136 units but *not* on the third set of windows, *not* on the front doors and *not* on any of the two sets of 3-paneled glass slider doors. All of this work was permitted by the City under one permit, and although the work was broken up over time, possibly in an attempt to be under the 260 linear feet threshold, it indeed meets the threshold.

I know you said you wanted to speak to Mr. Ponak from Region 3 in Philadelphia this morning and I hope you will get back to me after you have made that connection. I look forward to hearing from Mr. Bishop today regarding a game plan moving forward, specifically regarding doing disturbed air and carpet testing and determining from those results combined with a site visit any necessary decontamination protocols. Time is of the essence as we can not afford to stay in a hotel more than a couple more days and otherwise we would be homeless. If there is an independent person you trust and know performs the disturbed air and carpet tests with the correct methodology, please send me their contact info. We really need to have this testing done today or tomorrow. As we discussed safety is our top priority.

Please confirm you received this as I know there are several attachments.

I appreciate your time and assistance with this matter.

Regards,

(b) (6)